

REMARKS

Applicants' undersigned representative appreciates the courtesies extended by Examiner Karl Group to the undersigned during a telephone interview conducted on May 14, 2007.

During the aforementioned interview, applicants confirmed that a typographical error in the description of a prior art document insofar as the year of publication was erroneously entered in the original specification.

By the foregoing Amendment, applicants have corrected the year of publication of that prior art document and attach hereto (in a separate Information Disclosure Statement) a copy of that document, together with an English language translation thereof. Applicants respectfully submit that, as this is just a correction of a minor typographical error, it does not raise new issues nor the issue of new matter and should be entered into the application as a ministerial act.

During the aforementioned interview, applicants also discussed the double patenting rejection of claims 1-11 over co-pending claims 1-8 in Application Serial No. 10/548,380. Although applicants acknowledge paragraph 4 of the previous Office Action which stated "applicants have not argued this rejection," applicants did indeed argue this rejection as was pointed out to the Examiner in the second full paragraph of page 2 of the response filed March 13, 2007.

Therein it was noted that no claims in either application had previously been indicated allowable and that, as such, the requirements for filing a Terminal Disclaimer was premature.

During the aforementioned interview, it was proposed by the undersigned that should the Examiner indicate one of the groups of claims to be allowable in either this application or the aforementioned Application Serial No. 10/548,380, applicants would file a Terminal Disclaimer in the other application. The Examiner agreed that the Terminal Disclaimer need not be filed in each case but that it should be filed in the later filed case, i.e., in Application Serial No. 10/548,380.

Accordingly, applicants respectfully submit that the claims of this application are now in condition for immediate allowance, which is action is earnestly solicited as a Terminal Disclaimer is simultaneously filed in co-pending Application Serial No. 10/548,380.

If any fee is necessary, it may be charged to the undersigned's deposit account number 19-4375.

Respectfully submitted



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